

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

This Document contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, Sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law. The reproduction of this form is prohibited.

SECRET

25X1

COUNTRY Iran

REPORT NO.

25X1

SUBJECT Mossadeq's Version of His Conflict
with the Shah

DATE DISTR.

7 April 1953

25X1

DATE OF INFO.

NO. OF PAGES

2

PLACE ACQUIRED

REQUIREMENT NO.

25X1

REFERENCES

25X1

25X1

1. The following is a paraphrase of Prime Minister Mossadeq's explanation to his Council of Ministers regarding his conflict with the Shah:

a. "After Razmara was killed [redacted] the Shah made a number 25X1
of representations [redacted] for the purpose of obtaining [redacted] 25X1
the Anglo-Iranian Oil Agreement. [redacted] efforts at this 25X1
early stage, the British, with the aid of the Shah, would surely have had 25X1
their way. Later, when the Council of Ministers [redacted] decided to close all 25X1
British consulates, Ambassador Sir Francis Shepherd called and demanded

[redacted] When he became aware of the fact 25X1
[redacted] no intention of submitting to his demand that the decree for 25X1
closure be rescinded, he took his case to the Shah. Once more the Shah 25X1
attempted to interfere in political matters to the detriment of his own 25X1
country [redacted]

became irritated by such interference. As time went on, it became 25X1
obvious [redacted] the Shah was doing his best to undermine my Government. 25X1
[redacted] the Ministry of National Defense for purposes of 25X1
controlling the Security Forces. As you know, the Shah refused [redacted] 25X1

[redacted] At that time a bill was introduced in the Majlis to transfer 25X1
the authority of Commander-in-Chief from the Shah to the Minister of 25X1
Defense [redacted] opposed this bill as you know. [redacted] been against 25X1
the Shah then, [redacted] opposed such a bill? Of course not. [redacted] 25X1
then went to the Shah and asked him his preference for Chief of Staff. 25X1
He requested that [redacted] Mahmud Beharmast as Chief of Staff and also 25X1
place Alavi (fnu) [redacted] in a responsible post. Both were made members of the 25X1
Security Council, and were loyal to the Shah.

SECRET

25X1

STATE	X	ARMY	X	NAVY	X	AIR	X	FBI		AEC				
-------	---	------	---	------	---	-----	---	-----	--	-----	--	--	--	--

(Note: Washington Distribution indicated by "X"; Field Distribution by "#")
Approved For Release 2004/02/10 : CIA-RDP80-00810A000900450004-9

f
W
6

SECRET

25X1

-2-

b. With this background in mind we come to the more recent activities of the Court against the Government: the activities of certain military leaders, the Bakhtiari affair,² the Iraqi Frontier trouble, and the contemplated return to Iran of Princess Ashraf and the Queen Mother. To prevent further intrigue by the Court [redacted] Majlis Deputies Zolfaghari and Mir-Ashrafi (no Government man), and Seyyed Ibrahim Milani to protest these activities. [redacted] to see the Shah, who denied all. [redacted] seven more Deputies (whom you all know) to the Shah with the message that either he cooperate [redacted] 100 percent or be faced [redacted] resignation. The reply was, "Don't resign, I'll leave the country." 25X1

c. Thus the stage was set. [redacted] believing that the Shah actually was going to leave, arranged for his foreign exchange needs, passports, etc. Then, on Friday evening (27 February 1953) [redacted] Mullah Behbehani 25X1 and Shams al Din Qanatabadi were planning a huge demonstration at the Palace for the next day. Saturday morning [redacted] Baharmast to deploy Security 25X1 Forces throughout the city so as to avoid any trouble when the Shah was leaving. [redacted] to take every measure to insure order in the city. By 1100 hours there were no signs of the Shah's departure [redacted] that the Chief of Staff and Military Governor had not carried [redacted] orders 25X1 [redacted] suspicious (particularly when Behbehani and others called and asked [redacted] prevent the Shah's departure) and went to see the Shah.³ By that time crowds were gathering around the Palace shouting pro-Shah slogans [redacted] You all know what happened after that. Thus, you see that this was a well-executed plan by the opposition to attempt to build a basis of popular strength on which to challenge [redacted] This is the kind of Shah 25X1 [redacted] But no more. He and his friends are finished [redacted] Government is in control of the situation. 25X1

K1

Comments.

25X1

4. According to a 6 April 1953 United Press dispatch, Mossadeq in a nationwide broadcast accused the Shah of plotting to kill him and demanded that the Shah give up his ruling powers.

5.

SECRET

25X1